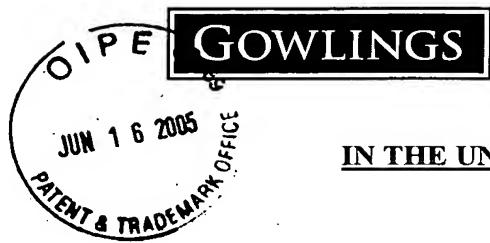


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
OFFICIAL ACTION RESPONSE

Mail Stop: RESPONSE - NO FEE
Serial No.: 10/722503
For: HARNESS FOR USE IN HARNESS RACING
Applicant: Bernard Girault
Filing Date: November 28, 2003
Our Ref: H311029USCOM H310329USCOM
Date: June 15, 2005

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington D.C.
20231, U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

In response to the final action of April 5, 2005, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend claim 1 as follows:

1. A harness for horse racing having:

a back-engaging tree with an arched body shaped to fit across a horse's back, a pair of laterally-spaced fork members projecting downwardly from opposite sides of the arched body so as to extend downwardly on opposite sides of the horse's body when in use, and a pair of laterally-spaced independently resiliently deflectable spring members extending rearwardly from the arched body and shaped to conform with the shape of a horse's back, [and]

the spring members of the back-engaging tree having in plan view laterally-inner edges which are substantially parallel and laterally-outer edges which diverge in a curved manner from the arched body portion to a maximum just beyond half-way along their length and then converge towards their rear ends, and

a girth strap assembly attached to the back-engaging tree, the girth strap assembly having shaft attachments on opposite sides thereof below the back-engaging tree for attaching the shafts of a sulky thereto.